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3/30/04

Confirmation No. 3217

Appl. No. : 09/694,675
Applicant : Kenji ITOH et al.
Filed : October 24, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2684
Examiner : Philip J. Sobutka

Docket No. : 2576-105
Cust. No. : 06449

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MAR 23 2004

Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action of January 2, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

An Appendix including amended drawing figures is attached following page 10 of this paper.

03/22/2004 SMINASS1 00000004 022135 09694675

01 FC:1202 90.00 DA
02 FC:1201 86.00 DA

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FEETRANSMITTAL
for FY 2003
(Large Entity)

Complete if Known

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | Application Number | 09/694,675 |
| | | Filing Date | October 24, 2000 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Kenji ITOH |
| | | Examiner Name | Philip J. Sobotka |
| | | Group Art Unit | 2684 |
| Total Amount of Payment | (\$176) | Attorney Docket Number | 2576-105 Technology Center 2600 |

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METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

1. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge additional fees and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 02-2135 in the name of Rothwell, Figg, Ernst & Manbeck
- Charge any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17
- Applicant claims small entity status
2. Payment Enclosed
 - Check
 - Deposit Account

FEETRANSMITTAL (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

| Fee Code | Fee Paid | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
|-------------------------|----------|--|----------|
| 1051 | 130 | Surcharge - late filing fee or oath | [] |
| 1052 | 50 | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet | [] |
| 1053 | 130 | Non-English specification | [] |
| 1812 | 2,520 | For filing a request for reexamination | [] |
| 1804 | 920 | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action | [] |
| 1804 | 1,840* | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action | [] |
| 1251 | 110 | Extension for reply within first month | [] |
| 1252 | 420 | Extension for reply within second month | [] |
| 1253 | 950 | Extension for reply within third month | [] |
| 1254 | 1,480 | Extension for reply within fourth month | [] |
| 1255 | 2,010 | Extension for reply within fifth month | [] |
| 1401 | 330 | Notice of Appeal | [] |
| 1402 | 330 | Filing a brief in support of an appeal | [] |
| 1403 | 290 | Request for Oral Hearing | [] |
| 1451 | 1,510 | Petition to institute a public use proceeding | [] |
| 1452 | 110 | Petition to revive -unavoidable | [] |
| 1453 | 1,330 | Petition to revive - unintentional | [] |
| 1501 | 1,330 | Utility issue fee (or reissue) | [] |
| 1502 | 480 | Design issue fee | [] |
| 1503 | 640 | Plant issue fee | [] |
| 1460 | 130 | Petitions to the Commissioner | [] |
| 1807 | 50 | Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) | [] |
| 1806 | 180 | Submission of Information Disclosure Statement | [] |
| 8021 | 40 | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | [] |
| 1809 | 770 | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR .129(a)) | [] |
| 1810 | 770 | For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b)) | [] |
| 1801 | 770 | Request for Continued Examination (RCE) | [] |
| 1802 | 900 | Request for expedited examination of a design application | [] |
| 1504 | 300 | Publication fee for early, voluntary, or normal publication | [] |
| 1505 | 300 | Publication fee for republication | [] |
| 1455 | 200 | Filing application for patent term adjustment | [] |
| 1456 | 400 | Request for reinstatement of term reduced | [] |
| Other fee (specify) [] | | | |

* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL \$

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|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| SUBMITTED BY | | Complete (if applicable) | | |
| NAME AND REG. NUMBER | Thomas E. McKiernan, Reg. No. 37,889 | | | |
| SIGNATURE | Thomas E. McKiernan | DATE | 19 MROY | DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USER ID |

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